



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ALLY *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/741,735

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: **Apparatus and Method for Drying
Solutions Containing
Macromolecules**

Confirmation No.: 5901

Art Unit: 3749

Examiner: Lu, Jiping

Atty. Docket: 0942.4060002/LEA/MJM

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

APR 21 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended one month from March 16, 2004 to April 16, 2004 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$110.00 for a one month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Linda E. Alcorn

Linda E. Alcorn
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 39,588

04/19/2004 JBALINAH 00000135 09741735

01 FC:1251

110.00 OP

Date: April 16, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

253553_1.DOC